

Mathematics 2002 Performance Definitions

Grade 4

Basic Level

Students who scored at the “Basic” level demonstrated minimal evidence of their understanding of the grade-level appropriate mathematics content in the Michigan Curriculum Framework. Such evidence was exhibited by, but was not limited to, students:

Applying basic concepts, algorithms, properties, and procedures to solve simple, one-step problems presented in a real-world context.

- some number sense (not complete)
- doesn't have basic facts memorized (have most $+$, $-$, still working toward \times and \div)
- read and interpret and apply simple one-step problems
- can identify which operation strategy to use for a one-step problem
- know basic shapes, but not all important attributes
- limited sense of equivalence

Using appropriate tools (such as tables, charts, graphs, compasses, protractors, and/or formulas) to obtain mathematical information.

- can find information and answer a simple question
- knows how to use tools; may lack fine motor skills

Generating minimal written responses to questions.

- can write a partial explanation using at least one function of the problem; may not have accurate answer
- skips portions of written responses; incomplete ideas or incorrect concepts expressed
- lacks or minimal mathematical vocabulary

Recognizing examples and applications of mathematical ideas.

- lacks conceptual understanding — rote learner
- doesn't question examples
- recognizes obvious math info, difficulty with multi-step

Met Level

Students who scored at the “Met” level consistently applied grade-level appropriate, integrated procedural knowledge and conceptual understanding to solve problems consistent with the mathematics content in the Michigan Curriculum Framework. Such evidence was exhibited by, but was not limited to, students:

Applying basic concepts, algorithms, properties, and procedures to solve multi-step, routine problems.

- basic computation, procedures, properties, etc.,
- adequate number sense (can skip count, count forward, backward)
- understands inverse operations (+, –) (\times , \div)
- has most facts memorized and strategies for those unknown
- understands equivalence
- can perform two-step problem with difficult operations, but still routine
- knows basic shapes and important attributes
- has problem solving strategies and accuracy

Using appropriate tools (such as tables, charts, graphs, compasses, protractors, and/or formulas) to obtain and interpret mathematical information.

- proficient with using tools (can also construct)
- performs special tasks with accuracy and understanding on calculators
- can apply, recognize, and interpret
- read and construct graphs and tables

Generating adequate written explanations that show solutions with supporting information.

- can explain how they got the answer — might have a minor flaw
- can explain more than one step solution
- supports solution; demonstrates conceptual understanding
- can write an explanation and show processes used to solve problems

Generating examples and counterexamples of mathematical ideas.

- can write own problems (one-step)
- able to analyze — includes limited counting examples
- analyze mathematical info to make a connection inside mathematics

Exceeds Level

Students who scored at the “Exceeds” level demonstrated the grade-level appropriate ability to apply integrated procedural knowledge and conceptual understanding to complex and non-routine real-world problems that reflect the mathematical content in the Michigan Curriculum Framework. Such evidence was exhibited by, but was not limited to, students:

Applying concepts, algorithms, properties, and procedures to solve multi-step, non-routine problems.

- applies, transfers, integrates math concepts and prior knowledge to solve multi-step non-routine problems
- excellent mathematical vocabulary
- understands equivalence and relationships
- innovative — many solutions to problem solving — can apply to new situations
- concepts trigger internal visuals
- solve complex or multi-step problems in a variety of ways, then choosing the most efficient way to the correct response

Using appropriate tools (such as tables, charts, graphs, compasses, protractors, and/or formulas) to obtain, interpret and apply mathematical information to complex situations.

- applies and interprets math info to complex situations
- uses tools to enhance thinking (+ appropriate time)
- knows what graph, chart is telling without prompt

Generating and justifying conclusions by providing accurate, concisely written responses to mathematical questions.

- correct solution with clear explanation/support
- extends, generates beyond the obvious
- explains completely with mathematical vocabulary, including symbols
- can write an explanation to justify their strategies using accurate math terminology to solve problems

Generalizing from examples, extending examples, and generating counter examples.

- can produce own examples and counterexamples
- can create many types of problems
- able to synthesize (includes creative examples) and transfer mathematical concepts inside and outside of math